things, that Tiruchirappalli district has no Government Farm and that one of the Fruit Farms opened in Dharmapuri and Periyakulam could be easily shifted to Tiruchirappalli district, where large areas are under different types of mango and plantain.

(c) The Government examined this suggestion. There is no Government Fruit Farm in Dharmapuri. The model orchard-*cum*-nurseries in the Salem and Madurai districts are located respectively at Thimmapuram and Periyakulam. As the lands required for the centres had already been acquired and plantings completed, the Government considered that the suggestion to transfer one of these centres to Tiruchirappalli district was not feasible."

Irrigation tank for Koopuliyankottai.

* 1364 Q.—SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any petitions recently from the agriculturists of Koopuliyankottai village in Malanjoor Vattam of Alangudi taluk, Tiruchirappalli district regarding the laying out of an irrigation tank for wet cultivation; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (a) No.

" (b) Does not arise."

Development of Coir Industry in Malabar.

* 1365 Q.—SRI C. KUNHIRAMA KURUP: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have any scheme for the development of Coir Industry in Malabar; and

(b) if so, what it is?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (a) Yes, Sir.

" (b) A scheme for the development and organization of Coir Industry in Malabar district on a co-operative basis has been formulated by the State Coir Advisory Board. The details of the scheme are being examined by the Director of Industries and Commerce in consultation with the Registrar of Co-operative Societies. Another scheme for starting a Coir training centre to give training in improved methods of Coir Industry is also under the consideration of the Director of Industries and Commerce."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" Sir, in view of the collapsing condition of the coir industry, will the Government see that it is exempted from the payment of sales tax, as is done in the Travancore-Cochin State? "